From: McMillin, Stella@Wildlife
To: AGCOMM; Palmer-Townsend, Marilyn@CDPR; Kratville, David@CDFA; Miller, Robert
Subject: Loss report for coyote in Sacramento County
Date: Friday, January 05, 2018 12:46:59 PM
Attachments: P3259.pdf

Good morning, I have attached a loss report for a coyote in Sacramento County. Please let me know if you have any questions. -001

Thank you.

Stella McMillin
Senior Environmental Scientist
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Wildlife Investigations Laboratory
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Office 916-358-2954
Cell 916-531-9683

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE BRANCH
WILDLIFE INVESTIGATIONS LABORATORY
PESTICIDE INVESTIGATIONS
1701 NIMBUS ROAD
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670
PHONE (916) 358-2954

Lab Number P-3259
Necropsy Number Z17-0928
CAHFS Number D1715464

Date of loss: November 14, 2017
Sample: Coyote
Canis latrans
Protection status: No special status

To: Juli Jensen
Sacramento County Agricultural Commissioner

Report Date: December 14, 2017

Remarks
Loss of coyote from probable bromethalin intoxication.

Background
On November 14, 2017, the CDFW Wildlife Investigations Laboratory (WIL) was notified by a member of the public that there was a dead coyote near the American River bike trail near Harrington Access, River Mile 12 of the American River in Sacramento. No cause of death was apparent. WIL collected the carcass and submitted in to the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory (CAHFS) in Davis to determine cause of death. -001

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

A necropsy was performed at CAHFS on November 16, 2017. This coyote was an adult male in fair body condition. No stomach contents were present. A moderate amount of watery, bloody fluid was in the abdomen and thoracic cavities. Other findings, such as lung congestion and liver nodules were thought to be post-mortem artifacts. No signs of trauma were observed.

Tests for rabies and canine distemper virus were negative. Five anticoagulant rodenticides were detected in liver tissue: 0.72 ppm brodifacoum, 0.15 ppm bromadiolone and traces of difethialone, diphacinone, and warfarin. While red-tinged fluid was found in the thoracic and abdominal cavities, there was no frank hemorrhage and the fluid may have been caused by autolysis. Desmethylbromethalin, a toxic metabolite of bromethalin, was detected in adipose tissue and is considered the most significant finding in this case.

Bromethalin is a neurotoxicant used as a rodenticide to control commensal rodents and moles. Animals intoxicated with bromethalin often display neurological signs such as disorientation. Given the presence of desmethylbromethalin in the adipose tissue, it is probable that the cause of death of this coyote is bromethalin intoxication. The significance of the anticoagulant rodenticide exposure to the loss of this coyote is unknown.

WILDLIFE INVESTIGATIONS LABORATORY

Stella McMillin, Senior Environmental Scientist
Wildlife Investigations Laboratory

Approved

Dr. Deana Clifford, Senior Wildlife Veterinarian,
Wildlife Investigations Laboratory

Cc: **Marilyn Palmer-Townsend,**
CDPR

David Kratville,
CDFA

Robert Miller,
USEPA